

29 Aug 2010

GRIP (FLL-JSC-DFRC) 14Z Daily Telecon / Webinar

Participants

FLL Team – Jeff Halverson, Michael Goodman, John Molinari, Rich Blakeslee, Henry Fuelberg, Forecast team

Telecon

Tim Miller, Gerry Heymsfield, Michael Black, Bjorn Lambrigtsen, Gary Wick, Ed Zipser, Svetla Hristova-Veleva, Robbie Hood, Lori Schultz, Bud Mienes

Global Hawk Report

- **Aircraft – green**
 - Yesterday (Saturday) – completed first flight into a tropical cyclone albeit a rapidly weakening H Frank. Global Hawk took off at 13Z (6a local) flight
- **Dropsonde – red**
 - New solenoid arrived at DFRC and tested at higher pressures. New solenoid is 1/8" larger and needs to be milled off to remount
 - Re-fly of Low Altitude test flight is tbd. Discussing combining high-altitude and low-altitude drop in one test flight
- **HAMSR – green**. Real time data on the Frank flights was downlinked and displayed at GHOC and in RTMM. No instrument problems. Some ground station processing glitches that should be easily resolved.
 - Saw little convection over Frank
- **LIP - green**
- **HIWRAP – yellow**
 - Some noise in 2-channels in the Ka band

WB-57 Report

- **Aircraft – green**
- **HIRAD - green**
 - Decision to suitcase to MacDill AFB, Tampa will be made on Monday 7a CT. Most likely will deploy
 - Could fly as early as Tue 20Z or Wed morning.
 - Thursday into H. Earl as long as he is within 1000 miles
- NAST-I still delayed
 - The piggybacking ground rules for NAST-I are such that it will not impact HIRAD. No separate test flights will be done for NAST-I.

DC8 Report

- **Aircraft – green**
 - Took a bird strike on the ground in STX while powered up for takeoff. The strike occurred before the plane was rolling. They are inspecting

the engine and a decision will be made whether to continue flying or if passengers will have to return commercial. After the end of the telecon, it was determined that the bird strike did not damage the engines and the plane flew a mission taking off at approx 1630Z.

- LASE – green.
- LARGE – green.
- APR2 – green.
- DAWN – yellow.
- Microphysics – green
 - PIP re-installed and ready to fly
 - CSI cannot fly for the duration of GRIP
- MMS – green.
- Dropsonde – green.

Science

- Considering a Global Hawk science flight on Wednesday over Earl. Need to notify DFRC today for a Wednesday flight. Alert GH flight crew today for Wednesday. GH Hard Down today. No dropsonde on a science flight over Earl. Consider an 11Z (4a PT) takeoff.
- GH could fly a “G-IV like” pattern in a surveillance mode.

H. Earl

- The storm is moving faster than predicted (GFS seems to do a better job than consensus).
- Assuming the DC8 can fly today, need to consider having the DC8 return to FLL on Sunday night and then re-fly from FLL on Tuesday and/or Wednesday. Of course this is all dependent upon the health of the plane vis-à-vis the birdstrike.
- WB-57 needs to make a decision by 12Z (8a ET / 7a CT) on a go/no-go decision. Closest to TPA will be Wednesday morning. Would like to get at least 1hr over the storm.